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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: R.A. Vaughan et al.

Attorney Docket No.: EXIN117646

Application No.: 09/932,441

Group Art Unit: 2161

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Examiner: --

Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MANAGING INVENTORY

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Seattle, Washington 98101

November 16, 2001

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Prior to examination of the above-identified patent application, please amend the application as indicated below.

In the Claims:

Amend Claims 42, 43, and 48 as shown below, and remove the underlying from Claim 57:

A1 42. (Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the method recited in any one of Claims 26-41.

sub B1 43. (Amended) A computer system having a processor memory in an operating environment the computer system operable to perform the method recited in any one of Claims 26-41.

A2 48. (Amended) The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 45, wherein the first level of characteristics defines a cancellation and change penalty.

A3 57 (Amended) The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 56, wherein the limitation of use is a consumer limitation of use.

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